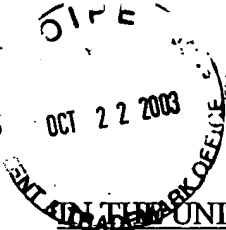


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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 09/664,390

Group Art Unit: 1724

Inventors: Notaro et al

Filed: 9/18/2000

Title: LOW VOID ADSORPTION  
SYSTEMS AND USES THEREOF

Examiner: SPITZER

VIA FAX

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

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TC 1700

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In the claims:

Please cancel claim 3:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (twice amended) A low void pressure swing adsorption system comprised of:
  - (a) at least one hermetically sealed vessel containing an adsorbent bed with at least one inlet coupled to the adsorbent bed by way of an inlet header and at least one outlet coupled to the adsorbent bed by way of an outlet header;
  - (b) wherein the inlet header and the outlet header of each vessel have a combined volume of less than 5% of the volume of the adsorbent bed of said vessel; and,
  - (c) wherein each inlet is coupled with at least one pressure source.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended in order to more clearly define the invention. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

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